

**Written Notification
The International
Search Office (Annex)**

International File Number
PCT/CH04/00019

V.

**Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1. Reference is made to the following documents:
D1: US 2 950 120 (STEWART HUBBERT L) 23 August 1960 (1960-08-23)
D2: US 5 584 786 (ALMEDA THOMAS M) 17 December 1996 (1996-12-17), cited
in the application
D3: US 4 927 139 (TALTRE ABRAHAM K) 22 May 1990 (1990-05-22)
2. The present application does not fulfil the requirements of Article 33(1) PCT, since the subject matter of claim 1 is not novel under Article 33(2) PCT.
 - 2.1 Document D1 discloses (the references in parentheses refer to this document): an apparatus for training the human body, or a training device (see column 1, line 22), comprised of an arched, sheet element (10), having a largely rectangular outline (see Fig. 4), the arch or the curve enclosing an angle of at least approximately 30°.

The subject matter of claim 1 is therefore not novel.
 - 2.2 Document D2 also discloses an apparatus for training the human body (see column 1, lines 13 to 18), with an arched sheet element (30), a rectangular outline (see Figure 2), the arch enclosing an angle of at least 30°.

The subject matter of claim 1 therefore is also not novel with reference to D2.
 - 2.3 D3 also discloses a training device (10) with an arched, sheet element (32), a rectangular outline (see Fig. 2), the arch enclosing an angle of at least 30°.

The subject matter of claim 1 is therefore also with respect to D3 not novel.

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3.1 The dependent claims 2 to 8, 10 and 11 do not contain any characteristics which fulfil the requirements of the PCT with respect to novelty. See for example:

- D1, Fig. 1, for claims 2 to 4, and 11
- D1, column 1, lines 67 to 70, for claim 5
- D2, Fig. 6, and column 6, lines 25 to 47, for claims 6 and 7
- D2, column 6, line 32, for claim 8
- D2, Fig. 1, for claim 10.

3.2 The dependent claim 9 has as its subject matter a minimal structural change of the training device according to claim 1, which is within the scope of what a person of skill in the art customarily carries out due to the considerations familiar to him, especially since the advantages attained therewith can readily be anticipated in advance.

VIII

Certain observations on the international application

1. The parameter specified in claim 1 for the arch or the curve is not clear. The specification also does not reveal how, or at which site, the angle is to be applied in order to check the curvature.